



National Weather Service

# NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards



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## NWR Receiver Consumer Information

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards transmitters broadcast on one of seven VHF frequencies from 162.400 MHz to 162.550 MHz. The broadcasts cannot be heard on a simple AM/FM radio receiver. However, there are many receiver options, ranging from handheld portable units which just pick up Weather Radio - to desktop and console models which receive Weather Radio in addition to other broadcasts.

### Where to Buy One

While NOAA's National Weather Service staff prepare and produce Weather Radio broadcasts, NWS neither manufactures nor sells receivers. Receivers can be found at many retail outlets, including electronics, department, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores and their catalogs. They can also be purchased via the Internet from online retailers or directly from manufacturers.

### Receiver Types and Models

The National Weather Service does not endorse any particular make or model of receiver. The following lists below, which contains just some of the many NOAA Weather Radio/EAS receiver manufacturers, is provided to obtain information to decide on a purchase. Manufacturers who wish to add their company's information to this page may e-mail the webmaster of this web page, [Melody Magnus](#).

- [Residential receivers](#)
- [Industrial/commercial grade receiver](#)

### Key Features

Depending on the information you want to access, and how and where you plan to access our broadcasts, you have many options. There are Standalone Weather Radio receivers as well as Multi-Band/Function Receivers with the Weather Band included. If you are want to be alerted to Warnings and Watches day or night, a Standalone receiver might work best for you. If you just want to be able to tune to in the Weather Broadcast, but you do not care about receiving alerts, a general multi-band/function receiver could be better.

**Standalone Receivers:** Standalone Receivers might also come with AM/FM bands, but their primary use will be to receive Weather Radio broadcasts. You can choose between handheld and desktop models, depending on whether you will want to take your radio with you when you go out. There are many choices from a number of manufacturers with prices ranging from around \$20 to over \$100, depending on the number of features included.

**Multi-Band/Function Receivers:** These receivers bundle a number of features, and Weather Radio is just one of possibly many frequency bands included. You can find the Weather Radio band included in:

- AM/FM radios
- Shortwave receivers
- CB radios
- VHF Marine radios
- Scanners
- GMRS/FRS 2-way radios
- Car radios
- TV/Radio combinations

## Residential Grade Radios and Features

Prices can vary from \$20 to \$200, depending on the model. Many receivers have an alarm feature, but some may not. Among the more useful features in a receiver are:

***Tone alarm:*** The National Weather Service will send a 1050 Hz tone alarm before most warning and many watch messages are broadcast. The tone will activate all the receivers which are equipped to receive it, even if the audio is turned off. This is especially useful for warnings which occur during the night when most people are asleep.

***SAME technology:*** SAME, or Specific Alert Message Encoding allows you to specify the particular area for which you wish to receive alerts. Most warnings and watches broadcast over NOAA Weather Radio are county- or independent city-based (parish-based in Louisiana), although in a few areas of the country the alerts are issued for portions of counties. Since most NWR transmitters are broadcasting for a number of counties, SAME receivers will respond only to alerts issued for the area (or areas) you have selected. This minimizes the number of "false alarms" for events which might be a few counties away from where you live.

***Selectable alerting of events:*** While SAME allows you to specify a particular area of interest, some receivers allow you to turn off the alarm for certain events which might not be important to you. For example, if you live in a coastal county, but not right at the beach, you might not care about Coastal Flood Warnings.

***Battery backup:*** Since power outages often occur during storms, having a receiver with battery backup can be crucial. However, unless you have a portable unit which you will use away from other power sources, an AC power connection is recommended.

***External antenna jack:*** While most receivers come with a whip antenna which can usually be extended out from the unit, depending on your location you may need an external antenna to get a good reception. Some receivers come with an external antenna jack (normally in the back of the unit) which will allow you to connect to a larger antenna (indoors or outdoors). You can often purchase these as accessories at the place where you bought your receiver, or from most stores with an electronics department. NWR broadcasts are in the Public Service VHF frequencies, just above FM radio and between TV channels 6 and 7 - so an antenna designed for VHF televisions or FM radios should work. Or, you can make your own antenna. [Go to this web site](#) for more information.



We can not recommend one brand of receiver over another, but we do suggest that you look for receivers which carry the Public Alert logo. The Public Alert Standard (CEA-2009) was developed by the [Consumer Electronics Association](#) in conjunction with the National Weather Service. Devices which carrying the Public Alert logo meet certain technical standards and come with all the features mentioned above. The site below are commercial sites. They are NOT part of the NOAA website.

**First Alert Weather Radios**

Sima Products Corporation  
Customer Service  
140 Pennsylvania Ave., Bldg #5  
Oakmont, PA 15139  
800-345-7462, 412-828-3700  
fax: 412-828-9338  
e-mail: [custserv@simacorp.com](mailto:custserv@simacorp.com)  
<http://www.simacorp.com>

**Radio Shack**

200 Taylor Street, Suite 600  
Ft. Worth, TX 76102  
Customer Relations phone: 817-415-3200  
fax: 817-415-3240  
[www.radioshack.com](http://www.radioshack.com)

**Midland Radio Corporation**

5900 Parretta Dr  
Kansas City, MO 64120  
phone: 816-241-8500  
e-mail: [mail@midlandradio.com](mailto:mail@midlandradio.com)  
[www.midlandradio.com](http://www.midlandradio.com)

**Reecom Electronics Inc.**

3603 Woodlark Drive  
Roswell, GA 30075  
phone: 770-641-9228  
fax: 770-641-1040  
e-mail: [sales@reecominc.com](mailto:sales@reecominc.com)  
[www.reecominc.com](http://www.reecominc.com)

**Oregon Scientific**

North American Headquarters  
19861 SW 95th Place  
Tualatin, OR 97062  
phone: 503-639-8883  
fax: 503-684-8883  
e-mail: [info@oscientific.com](mailto:info@oscientific.com)  
<http://www2.oregonscientific.com/>

**HomeSafe, Inc**

519 Dupree Road  
Willow Springs, NC 27592  
phone: 800-607-6737  
phone: 919-639-3001  
fax: 919-639-0547  
<http://www.homesafeinc.com>  
e-mail: [homesaferadios@aol.com](mailto:homesaferadios@aol.com)  
[info@homesafeinc.com](mailto:info@homesafeinc.com)

**Ambient Weather**

6503 W. Frye Road, Suite 11  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
phone: 480-283-1644  
fax: 480-283-1645  
e-mail: [support@AmbientWeather.com](mailto:support@AmbientWeather.com)  
<http://www.AmbientWeather.com/noaaradio.html>

**Alert Products Inc.**

Distributed by Media Group Inc.  
102 Hamilton Av.  
Stamford, CT 06902  
phone: 203-406-1000

**C. Crane Company**

1001 Main Street  
Fortuna, CA 95540  
phone: 800-522-8863  
phone: 707-725-9000  
fax: 707-725-9060  
e-mail: [ccraneco@aol.com](mailto:ccraneco@aol.com)  
[www.ccrane.com](http://www.ccrane.com)

**WeatherRadios.com**

430 N Wanda Ln.  
Palatine, IL 60067  
phone: 800-818-6505  
e-mail: [mailto:@weatherradios.com](mailto:mailto:@weatherradios.com)  
<http://WeatherRadios.com/>

**MTS Communication Products**

Lyn Williams, CEO  
Skip White, VP  
950 Hwy 42 West  
Clayton, NC 27520  
phone: 919-553-2995  
fax: 919-553-0437  
[www.mts-comm.com](http://www.mts-comm.com)  
[www.EmergencyAlertRadio.com](http://www.EmergencyAlertRadio.com)

**ExploraTrack**

PO Box 1190  
Cannon Beach, OR 97110  
1-800-414-8655  
[info@exploratrack.com](mailto:info@exploratrack.com)  
<http://www.weatherradiostore.com>  
<http://www.weatherconnection.com>

**Freeplay Energy**

Dixie Sales Company  
 PO Box 600  
 Brown's Summit, NC 27214  
 Toll free: 1-866-697-7529  
 Fax: 336-621-9100 e-mail: [pthornton@dixiesales.com](mailto:pthornton@dixiesales.com)  
[www.freeplayenergy.com](http://www.freeplayenergy.com)

**Etón USA**

Etón Corporation  
 1015 Corporation Way  
 Palo Alto, CA 94303 USA  
 Phone: 650 335 3008  
 Fax: 650 903 3867  
 email: [snguyen@etoncorp.com](mailto:snguyen@etoncorp.com)  
[www.etoncorp.com](http://www.etoncorp.com)

## Industrial/Commercial Grade Receivers

Designed for reception of Emergency Alert System [EAS](#) broadcasts as well as NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts. Prices may vary from hundreds to thousands of dollars.

**Thunder Eagle, Inc.**

Dan Gropper  
 Thunder Eagle, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 625  
 Vienna, VA 22183  
 phone: 888-877-8022  
 fax: 703-281-7459  
 e-mail: [dgropper@thuneagle.com](mailto:dgropper@thuneagle.com)  
[www.thuneagle.com](http://www.thuneagle.com)

**MTS Communications Products**

Lyn Williams, CEO  
 Skip White, VP  
 150 Clayton Commerce Center  
 Clayton, NC 27520  
 phone: 919-553-2995  
 fax: 919-553-0437  
[www.mts-comm.com](http://www.mts-comm.com)

**TFT, Inc.**

Darryl E. Parker, VP, Bus. Development  
 2243 Ringwood Avenue  
 San Jose, CA 95131-1737  
 phone: 408-943-9323  
 fax: 408-432-9218  
 e-mail: [DParker@TFTInc.com](mailto:DParker@TFTInc.com)  
 e-mail: [info@TFTInc.com](mailto:info@TFTInc.com)  
[www.TFTInc.com](http://www.TFTInc.com)

**Communistarr, Inc.**

215 S. Pavilion Avenue  
 Riverside, NJ 08075-3613  
 phone: 800-952-7129  
 fax: 856-764-6519

**Veetronix, Inc**

PO Box 480  
 Lexington, NE 69130  
[sales@veetronix.com](mailto:sales@veetronix.com)  
[www.veetronix.com](http://www.veetronix.com)

**Hamtronics, Inc.**

Jerry Vogt  
 65 Moul Road  
 Hilton, NY 14468-9535  
 phone: 716-392-9430  
 fax: 716-392-9420  
 e-mail: [jv@hamtronics.com](mailto:jv@hamtronics.com)  
[www.hamtronics.com](http://www.hamtronics.com)

**Gorman Redlich Manufacturing Co .**

257 West Union Street  
 Athens, OH 45701  
 phone: 740-593-3150  
 fax: 740-592-3898  
 e-mail: [jimg@gorman-redlich.com](mailto:jimg@gorman-redlich.com)  
[www.gorman-redlich.com](http://www.gorman-redlich.com)

**Computer Automation Technology Inc.**

4631 N.W. 31st Avenue, Suite 142  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
 phone: 954-978-6171  
 fax: 561-488-2894  
 e-mail: [webmaster@catauto.com](mailto:webmaster@catauto.com)  
[www.catauto.com](http://www.catauto.com)

**Dayton Industrial Corporation**

2237 Industrial Blvd.  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
phone: 941-351-4454  
fax: 941-351-6081  
e-mail: [SCARadio@aol.com](mailto:SCARadio@aol.com)  
[www.daytonindustrial.com](http://www.daytonindustrial.com)

## Receiver Recalls

For information on Weather Radio receiver recalls, go to the [U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission web site](http://www.fda.gov/cpsc) and choose "Radios Weather" in the product Type list.

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[Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services](#)  
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Silver Spring, MD 20910  
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Last Updated: November 13, 2007->->->->